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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Cancelled)

1 2. (Currently amended) A filter material comprising a blend of (a) polypropylene fibers
2 with measurable amounts of at least one extractable agent on outer surfaces thereof, and
3 (b) fibers of a second type selected from a group consisting of acrylic and modacrylic
4 ~~The filter material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the measurable amount of said at~~
5 ~~least one extractable agent is less than about 0.1 weight percent.~~

1 3. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2~~claim 1~~, wherein
2 the blend contains polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between
3 about 10:90 and about 90:10.

1 4. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 3, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 20:80 and
3 about 80:20.

1 5. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 4, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 30:70 and
3 about 70:30.

1 6. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 5, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 40:60 and
3 about 60:40.

1 7. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 6, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 45:55 and
3 about 55:45.

1 8. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 7, wherein the blend
2 comprises about 50 weight percent polypropylene fibers and about 50 weight percent of
3 the second type of fibers.

1 9. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2~~claim 1~~, wherein
2 the blend contains polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 20:80
3 and about 80:20.

1 10. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 9, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 30:70 and about 70:30.

1 11. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 10, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 40:60 and about
3 60:40.

1 12. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 11, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 45:55 and about
3 55:45.

1 13. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 12, wherein the blend
2 comprises about 50 weight percent polypropylene fibers and about 50 weight percent
3 acrylic fibers.

1 14. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2~~claim 1~~,
2 wherein the blend contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between
3 about 20:80 and about 80:20.

1 15. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 14, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 30:70 and
3 about 70:30.

1 16. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 15, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 40:60 and
3 about 60:40.

1 17. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 16, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 45:55 and
3 about 55:45.

1 18. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 17, wherein the blend
2 comprises about 50 weight percent polypropylene fibers and about 50 weight percent
3 modacrylic fibers.

1 19. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2claim 1,
2 wherein the second type of fibers comprises acrylic fibers which are substantially free of
3 extractable agents.

1 20. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2claim 1,
2 wherein the second type of fibers comprises acrylic fibers which contain measurable
3 amounts of at least one extractable agent.

1 21. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2~~claim 1~~,
2 wherein the second type of fibers comprises modacrylic fibers which are substantially
3 free of extractable agents.

1 22. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2~~claim 1~~,
2 wherein the second type of fibers comprises modacrylic fibers which contain measurable
3 amounts of at least one extractable agent.

1 23. (Currently amended) The filter material in accordance with claim 2~~claim 1~~,
2 wherein the polypropylene fibers are not cleaned to remove said at least one extractable
3 agent.

1 24. (Currently amended) A filter material comprising a blend of (a) polypropylene
2 fibers, and (b) fibers of a second type with less than about 0.1 weight percent measurable
3 amounts of at least one extractable agent on outer surfaces thereof, said fibers being
4 selected from a group consisting of acrylic and modacrylic.

1 25. (Original) The filter material in accordance with claim 21, wherein the
2 polypropylene fibers have measurable amounts of at least one extractable agent on outer
3 surfaces thereof.

- 1 26. (Withdrawn) A method of filtering particulate from a gas stream, the method
2 comprising:
3 (a) blending polypropylene fibers having measurable amounts of at least one
4 extractable agent on outer surfaces thereof with fibers of a second type selected
5 from a group consisting of acrylic and modacrylic to form a filter material; and
6 (b) disposing said filter material in said gas stream without cleaning said at least
7 one extractable agent from the outer surfaces of the fibers.